			NUMBER:	
	IDGET L	_ ETTER		BL 01-11
SUBJECT:	2001-02 ATTORNEY GENERAL'S LEGAL SERVICES RATE		DATE ISSUED:	May 31, 2001
REFERENCES:	GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 11044		SUPERSEDES:	BL 99-33

TO: Agency Secretaries

Department Directors

Departmental Budget Officers
Departmental Accounting Officers
Department of Finance Budget Staff

FROM: DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Standard Attorney General Legal Services Rates

This Budget Letter advises departments and agencies of an increase in 2001-02 rates for Attorney General's legal services. Government Code Section 11044 authorizes the Attorney General to charge an amount sufficient to recover the costs incurred in providing legal services to State agencies. Effective July 1, 2001, the Attorney General will increase the rate to \$112 per hour for standard attorney services and maintain the current rate of \$53 per hour for paralegals. Departments receiving services from the Department of Justice (DOJ) under a memorandum of understanding are subject to these rates. Such departments are generally funded through special fund or non-governmental cost fund appropriations rather than from the General Fund.

Total Quality Assurance Attorney Rates

Departments receiving legal services from the DOJ's Los Angeles office, and those receiving services (statewide) from the Natural Resources Section of the Public Rights Division will be charged an hourly attorney rate of \$120. This rate reflects a higher level of service being provided by DOJ through its Total Quality Assurance program. This program offers clients improved quality of service through increased supervision and oversight. Affected departments will be required to determine the level of attorney services being provided specifically by the Los Angeles region or by the Natural Resources Section.

2001-02 Augmentations

In order to provide departments with additional expenditure authority in the budget year for DOJ attorney services costs, a new budget act item (Org. 9913) has been proposed in the 2001-02 Governor's Budget. This new item will allocate additional funding for attorney service for departments whose legal costs are supported by special and non-governmental cost funds. A future Budget Letter will outline in detail the process for increasing 2001-02 legal services budgets. It is anticipated that this Budget Letter will be issued in July 2001, after the Budget is enacted. Planning estimate adjustments for DOJ attorney services for the 2002-03 Governor's Budget process will also be addressed in this future Budget Letter.

For any questions regarding this Budget Letter, please contact your Department of Finance Budget Analyst or Todd Jerue, Principal Program Budget Analyst, at (916) 445-8913.

Yoshie Fujiwara

Program Budget Manager

Yoshie Feijiware

